

CRANBERRY POND (Sunderland)

General Information:

This is a small, 27-acre, cold water pond located five miles north of Amherst center off Route 63. There is a gravel launch area on the north shore suitable to car top boat and canoe launching. **No motors are allowed.**

The pond is characterized by clear watercolor and has a transparency of 15 feet. The mean and maximum depths are four feet and 26 feet respectively. The 1.1 miles of shoreline are undeveloped and emergent aquatic vegetation covers about ten percent of the surface area. When Cranberry Pond was reclaimed in 1953, it had a standing crop estimated at 88 pounds of fish per acre.

This pond can be located on the U.S.G.S. topographic quad maps titled "Greenfield" and "Mt. Toby." Nearby fishing areas would include the Connecticut and Sawmill Rivers, Lake Wyola, Leverett Pond and Puffers (Factory Hollow) Pond.

Fish Populations:

This fish population was sampled July 6, 1981, at which time eight species were observed. Listed in order of sampling abundance these included largemouth bass, pumpkinseed, bluegill, chain pickerel, rainbow trout, brook trout, brown bullhead and golden shiner.

Fishing:

This pond gets very heavy use as a put and take trout water, and it is stocked with trout both spring and fall. The pond does not have any significant warm water fisheries, and bass and chain pickerel populations appear over fished. Bluegills and pumpkinseeds are the dominant species. Due to impassable roadways (the pond is located within Mt. Toby State Forest), it is a longer walk to reach this pond in winter, but it still supports a die-hard contingent of ice fishermen.

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